Members present: Megan Cersosimo, Lori Connelly, Pat Javorski, Tim McCluskey, VJ Sarullo, Phil Schneider, Kathy Walling, Jenn Whelan, Cindy Dysenchuk (tournament director), Marge Williamson (chair) and Joe Tonelli (CIAC staff).

Call to order – The meeting was called to order by Marge Williamson at 3:30 p.m.

Minutes – On the motion by Lori Connelly, the minutes of May 26, 2016 were approved.

2016 Tournament Report – Cindy reported that the tournament went very well. She praised VJ Sarullo and his staff at Jonathan Law High School for being an excellent host for the finals. Cindy feels that Law is a great site with excellent access to major highways. Since VJ is willing to continue to host this event, we will hold the 2017 championships at Jonathan law. The addition of Southington High School as a semi-final site was beneficial and it looks good for this year as well. Because the schools graduated early, it was a real challenge getting semi-final sites in spite of the advanced planning. But in the end, everything worked out well. It was also very helpful that Cindy sent out a memo to schools that were unofficially matched in the play of games and we were able to post those dates and times when the pairings were released.

Joe Tonelli thanked Cindy for her efforts and for doing an excellent job running the tournament. Joe mentioned that last year our net income was $3,958. This year we realized a significant increase in the net income ($8,923), and thanks to VJ, our expenses were kept down.

2017 Rule Changes – Although the official rules were not published yet, Joe Tonelli received some advanced information from an upper level administrator with US Lacrosse. Changes pertaining to the ASTM certification standard for EYEWEAR as well as a new standard for the optional headgear will be among the rule changes and highlighted on the alert page of the 2017 CIAC Lacrosse tournament packet. As always, the rule changes will be covered in the pre-season rules meeting for coaches. Advance notification regarding the eyewear was in last years’ packet and it will once again appear on the Alert page this year. All eyewear must meet the new ASTM certification standard for F3077.

2017 Tournament Packet – The packet was reviewed and the necessary revisions were made. By unanimous consent, the revised 2017 packet, with the three (3) division breakdown by enrollment was approved. The packet will be finalized by Cindy and proof read before submitting it to Judy.

New Business

US Women’s Lacrosse Optional Headgear – The performance standard for the optional headgear is F3137. All optional headgear worn must meet this standard or it would be considered illegal for use. Additional information for the optional approved headgear can be found on the www.ciacsports.com web site on the Girls Lacrosse page and also on the US Lacrosse web site.

US Lacrosse Women’s National Tournament – With the next set up, Connecticut will have more CIAC players competing in these games, which is played on the same weekend as our tournament games. It is important for coaches that have players in the Women’s National Tournament, and also have a play-in game, to be proactive and attempt to contact potential opponents in advance to try to schedule the CIAC game on Friday. If that is not possible, CIAC rules stipulate that no player will be permitted to miss a CIAC tournament game because of the National tournament, so coaches should convey that to their players in advance to avoid issues. The coaches on the CIAC Girls Lacrosse Committee will inform the coaches about this.

Championship Games / SAT & ACT Test Dates – Coaches should also remind your athletes that the championship games are played on either the SAT or the ACT date so they should plan to avoid registering for these tests on this date if their team has a chance to be in the finals. The game times will not be changed because of these tests.
Adjournment – With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m. The next meeting will be held on the morning of the pairings. The date is Thursday, May 25, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. at CIAC.